

Message Text

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TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 16 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX
BERN FOR INDIAN OCEAN DELEGATION

1. EDWARD DELONG OF UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL REPORTED
THAT M. D. NORDYKE OF LIVERMORE LAB TOLD AMERICAN ASSOCIA-
TION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE THAT LIMITED RUSSIAN
REPORTS AND WESTERN ANALYSIS INDICATE THAT USSR
PNE'S ,ARE ACT VELY BEING PURSUED AND, IN SOME
CASES, APPEAR TO BE IN ROUTINE INDUSTRIAL USE." NORDYKE
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AND OTHERS AT ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING SAID SUCH USE OF
PEACEFUL ATOMIC BLASTS POSES MAJOR OBSTACLE TO FULL-FLEDGED
U.S.-USSR NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY. NORDYKE SAID SOVIET
NUCLEAR BLASTS FOR ENERGY PRODUCTION AND OTHER PEACEFUL
PURPOSES RANGED IN POWER FROM FEW THOUSAND TONS TO ABOUT
100,000 TONS OF TNT. HE SAID SOVIETS AVERAGED THREE OR
FOUR SUCH EXPLOSIONS ANNUALLY IN LATE 1960S, HIT PEAK OF

NINE IN 1972 AND HAVE DROPPED BACK CLOSE TO ORIGINAL RATE IN RECENT YEARS. NORDYKE SAID SOVIETS HAVE "CARRIED OUT WELL OVER 40 (PEACEFUL) EXPLOSIONS. APPLICATIONS THAT APPEAR TO BE ENERGY ORIENTED ARE STORAGE, STIMULATION OF WELLS, DEEP SEISMIC SOUNDING AND GAS WELL FIRE CONTROL."

2. CHARLES CORDDRY OF BALTIMORE SUN REPORTED THAT PENTAGON SAID ESTIMATED EVENTUAL COST OF ITS 48 MAJOR WEAPONS PROGRAMS INCREASED BY 17.4 BILLION DOLLARS IN LAST QUARTER OF 1977. IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT THESE PROGRAMS NOW WOULD COST 205 BILLION DOLLARS, WITH INFLATION ACCOUNTING FOR 13.7 BILLION DOLLARS OF LAST QUARTER INCREASE. REMAINDER WAS ATTRIBUTED TO VARIOUS CHANGES IN PROGRAMS. UPI NOTED THAT 17.4 BILLION DOLLAR ESCALATION APPROACHED 18.4 BILLION DOLLAR INCREASE RECORDED FOR LAST QUARTER OF 1976, WHICH WAS AN ALL-TIME RECORD.

3. REAR ADMIRAL D. P. HARVEY, DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE TOLD HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE THAT USSR CAN "DIRECTLY CHALLENGE OUR INTERESTS AT SEA." UPI REPORTED THAT HARVEY SAID AS OF JAN. 1, SOVIET NAVY HAD 233 SURFACE WARSHIPS OF FRIGATE SIZE AND LARGER, LARGEST MISSILE AND ATTACK SUBMARINE COMBAT AND MINE WARFARE CRAFT, WORLD'S LARGEST SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY, FOURTH LARGEST MERCHANT FLEET AND LARGEST FISHING AND SURVEY FLEETS AFLOAT.
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"SOVIET NAVY," HE SAID, "CLEARLY POSSES NECESSARY FORCES AND CAPABILITY TO MOUNT AN INTENSIVE INTERDICTION CAMPAIGN AGAINST U.S. AND ALLIED SEA LINES OF COMMUNICATION."

4. CARYLE MURPHY OF WASHINGTON POST REPORTED FROM JOHANNESBURG THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS DECIDED TO CONVERT ITS EXPERIMENTAL URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT INTO FACILITY CAPABLE OF PRODUCING ENRICHED URANIUM IN COMMERCIAL QUANTITIES. DECISION, DISCLOSED THIS WEEK, SHE SAID, IS PART OF BROADER MOVE BY PRETORIA TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT IN ALL STRATEGIC SUPPLIES. NO DATE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR COMPLETION OF PROJECT, BUT MURPHY SAID ASSUMPTION IS THAT FUEL WOULD BE AVAILABLE BY 1981, WHEN TWO FRENCH-BUILT NUCLEAR POWER GENERATING PLANTS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION NEAR CAPE TOWN WILL BE READY TO GO INTO OPERATION. THREATS BY U.S. TO CUT OFF FUTURE NUCLEAR SUPPLIES UNLESS SOUTH AFRICA SIGNS NPT "CLEARLY GAVE IMPETUS TO GOVERNMENT'S DECISION," MURPHY SAID.

5. MOSCOW RADIO ANALYST ALEXANDER DRUZHININ BLAMED DIFFICULTIES IN REACHING SALT AGREEMENT ON "CERTAIN CIRCLES IN U.S." WHO ARE TRYING TO "HINDER, OR EVEN COMPLETE-

LY UNDERMINE" ACCORD. HE ASSERTED THERE IS "NO END TO PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AIMED AT RETOUCHING TREATY PROVISIONS' ALREADY AGREED TO IN ORDER TO "MAKE SITUATION UNEQUAL FOR SOVIET SIDE AND TO STRIVE FOR CERTAIN ADVANTAGES FOR U.S." DRUZHININ, COMMENTING ON LAST WEEK'S PRAVDA EDITORIAL, CITED "MANY WESTERN OBSERVERS" AS NOTING THAT IN

SUCH CONDITIONS, CLEAR AND LUCID ACCOUNT OF SOVIET POSITION COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE TIMELY." HE SAID WESTERN PRESS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT USSR "HAS DONE AND IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE" TO CONCLUDE NEW SALT AGREEMENT BUT "IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY AND EQUAL SECURITY."

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6. BOB WILLIS, WRITING IN ROANOKE, VIRGINIA TIMES AND WORLD-NEWS, COMMENTED ON AMBASSADOR WARNKE'S RECENT APPEARANCE AT FOREIGN POLICY CONFERENCE FOR EDITORS AND BROADCASTERS. WILLIS, DESCRIBING WARNKE'S PERFORMANCE AS "COOLLY BUSINESSLIKE AND ENTIRELY PRAGMATIC," SAID WARNKE'S "FORTHRIGHT REPLIES" TO "PROBING QUESTIONS FROM HIS AUDIENCE OF MORE THAN 100 NEWSPAPER, RADIO AND TELEVISION REPRESENTATIVES" CARRIED "NOTE OF AUTHORITY AND TOUGHNESS." WILLIS POINTED OUT "PUBLIC OPINION POLLS INDICATE THAT MAJORITY OF AMERICAN PUBLIC GIVE AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT HIGH PRIORITY AS NATIONAL GOAL. THEY, TOO, SHOULD FEEL REASSURED THAT NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD THAT GOAL ARE IN HANDS OF COMPETENT MAN -- PAUL C. WARNKE -- WHO WORKS UNDER NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT SOVIET SYSTEM OR NATURE OF POWER BALANCES IN MODERN WORLD."

7. IN WASHINGTON POST, GEORGE WILSON QUOTED AIR WAR SPECIALISTS AS SAYING JET FIGHTERS CARTER ADMINISTRATION PLAN TO SEND TO MIDDLE EAST WOULD NOT ALTER BALANCE OF POWER THERE. ISRAEL, SPECIALISTS POINTED OUT, COULD KNOCK DOWN ANYTHING EGYPT COULD PUT IN SKY. ALTHOUGH SAUDI ARABIA WOULD GET 60 F-15S ITS PLANES WOULD NOT START ARRIVING UNTIL LATE 1981. "NOT ONLY DOES ISRAEL HAVE MORE AND BETTER PLANES TODAY THAN ANY OF ITS MOST LIKELY OPPONENTS IN ANOTHER MIDEAST WAR, EXPERTS SAID, BUT IT HAS LATEST IN WEAPONRY TO GO ABOARD THEM. HIGHLY SKILLED PILOTS ARE ANOTHER ISRAELI ADVANTAGE." EDITORIALY, WASHINGTON POST SAID CARTER WAS WISE TO MAKE AIRCRAFT SALES PACKAGE DEAL. "WHETHER HE HAS STRUCK PRECISELY RIGHT MILITARY BALANCE, NOBODY CAN SAY WITH CERTAINTY. BUT OUR HUNCH IS THAT MILITARY EFFECT OF THESE TRANSACTIONS MAY BE OF LESS IMPORTANCE THAN THEIR

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PSYCHOLOGICAL AND DIPLOMATIC EFFECT.... IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE SENSITIVE TO DELAY ALL THREE SALES UNTIL THERE WAS MORE EVIDENCE THAT NEGOTIATING PROCESS SET IN MOTION AT JERUSALEM HAD BEEN GOTTEN MORE FIRMLY BACK ON TRACK."

8. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL REPORTED THAT SENATOR KENNEDY HAD RELEASED STUDY WHICH SAID EACH ONE BILLION DOLLAR INCREASE IN DEFENSE BUDGET RESULTS IN LOSS OF 11,600 JOBS. JOBS ARE LOST BECAUSE MILITARY SPENDING IS

"CAPITAL INTENSIVE" -- REQUIRING MUCH PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT AND EXPENSIVE MATERIALS -- AND PRODUCES FEWER JOBS THAN INVESTING SAME MONEY IN OTHER AREAS, STUDY SAID. STUDY, ENTITLED "EMPTY PORK BARREL: UNEMPLOYMENT AND PENTAGON BUDGET," WAS PREPARED BY MICHIGAN'S PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP, AND WAS BASED ON EARLIER STUDIES BY YALE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR BRUCE RUSSETT, WHO DEVELOPED FORMULA TO PREDICT HOW MUCH MONEY WOULD BE SPENT FOR CONSUMER GOODS, CONSTRUCTION, SERVICES AND STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IF IT WERE NOT SPENT ON ARMS. RESEARCH GROUP TRANSLATED PREDICTIONS INTO JOBS AND COMPARED TOTALS WITH NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED IN EACH STATE BY MILITARY SPENDING RESEARCH GROUP SAID CURRENT 107 BILLION DOLLAR MILITARY BUDGET IS COSTING 1,240,000 JOBS. PROPOSED 117 BILLION DOLLAR 1979 BUDGET WILL MEAN TOTAL LOSS OF 1,360,000 JOBS, GROUP SAID.

9. SYNDICATED COLUMNIST GOERGE F. WILL, WRITING IN FEB. 16 WASHINGTON POST, SAID RICHARD CAMMON AND BEN WATTENBERG, "RUTH AND GEHRIG OF VOTING ANALYSIS," BELIEVE CARTER'S PRINCIPAL PROBLEM "IS THAT MANY POLICY-MAKING JOBS BELOW CABINET LEVEL ARE OCCUPIED BY 'IDEOLOGUES FROM...ACTIVITIST MOVEMENT OF LAST DECADE.'" WILL SAID SCAMMON AND WATTENBERG, WRITING IN INAUGURAL ISSUE OF "PUBLIC OPINION," JOURNAL PUBLISHED BY AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE, "DO NOT DWELL UPON AN ADDITIONAL

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HAZARD TO CARTER: NO RECENT PRESIDENT HAS SURROUNDED HIMSELF WITH SUCH NARROW RANGE OF VIEWS, OR VIEWS MORE UNLIKE THOSE OF CONGRESS AND PUBLIC. THIS IS ESPECIALLY APPARENT, AND IMPORTANT, WITH REGARD TO ACDA. NOMINATION OF PAUL WARNKE AS DIRECTOR OF ACDA AND CHIEF SALT NEGOTIATOR BEGAN AN EDUCATIONAL PROCESS IN SENATE. AT FIRST, THERE WERE FEWER THAN TEN SENATORS PREPARED TO VOTE

AGAINST CONFIRMING WARNKE FOR EITHER JOB. BUT AFTER HE
FINISHED TESTIFYING, 40 SENATORS -- SIX MORE THAN
NECESSARY FOR REJECTION OF TREATY HE IS NEGOTIATING --
VOTED AGAINST CONFIRMING HIM AS CHIEF NEGOTIATOR. IN
1980, WHEN MANY CONSERVATIVE SOUTHERNERS AND OTHERS HAVE
BECOME RECONCILED TO RATIFICATION OF PANAMA CANAL
TREATIES, THERE MAY BE FRESH MEMORIES OF WHAT COULD
BECOME BIG STORY OF CARTER PRESIDENCY: AN UNPRECEDENTED
REJECTION OF AN ARMS CONTROL TREATY. AFTER ALL, ONE
REASON CANAL TREATIES WILL PASS IS THAT SOME SENATORS
ARE SAVING THEIR AMMUNITION FOR INCOMPARABLY MORE
IMPORTANT STRATEGIC ARMS DEBATE." VANCE

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